

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please ADD new claim 100 in accordance with the following:

1-77. (CANCELLED)

78. (WITHDRAWN) A system, operatively connected with a terminal via a communication link, for managing points which are issued to a customer according to transactions made by said customer and for providing services to said customer , comprising:

a point calculation unit to calculate a balance point of said customer according to transactions made by said customer;

a customer identification unit to identify said customer according to customer identification information obtained from said terminal via said communication link; and

a point information sending unit to send information regarding said balance point of said customer calculated by said point calculation unit to said terminal via said communication link after said customer is successfully identified by said customer identification unit and prior to completing a possible transaction.

79-81. (CANCELLED)

82. (WITHDRAWN) The system according to claim78, wherein said point information sending unit further sends information regarding receivable services in a range of the balance point of said customer.

83. (WITHDRAWN) The system according to claim 82, further comprising:

a selection unit to enable the customer to select a required genre of service; and

a service information sending unit to send information regarding said services belonging to said genre said customer selected, points required for each service and points additionally required to receive said each service.

84. (WITHDRAWN) The system according to claim 83, further comprising:
an entering unit to enable said customer to enter a required service; and
wherein a displaying unit displays shortage points for receiving a service corresponding to said service said customer entered.

85. (CANCELLED)

86. (WITHDRAWN) The method of managing points according to claim 89, comprising:
sending information regarding receivable services in a range of the balance point of said customer.

87. (WITHDRAWN) The method of managing points according to claim 86, further comprising:
enabling the customer to select a required genre of service; and
sending information regarding said services belonging to the genre said customer selected, points required for each service and points additionally required to receive said each service.

88. (WITHDRAWN) The method of managing points according to claim 87, further comprising:
enabling the customer to enter a required service; and
wherein shortage points for receiving a service corresponding to the service the customer entered are displayed.

89. (WITHDRAWN) A method of managing points which are issued to each customer according to transactions made by said customer and providing services to said customer, who receives services according to the issued points in a system connected with a terminal via a communication link, comprising:

calculating a balance point of said customer according to transactions made by said customer responsive to added and/or subtracted points according to the transactions;
identifying said customer according to customer identification information obtained from said terminal via the communication link; and

sending information regarding said balance point of said customer to said terminal via said communication link after said customer is successfully identified and prior to completing a possible transaction.

90-93. (CANCELLED)

94. (WITHDRAWN) The system according to claim 78, further comprising:
a transaction unit to enable said customer to make transactions via said communication link.

95. (WITHDRAWN) The method according to claim 89, further comprising:
enabling said customer to make transactions via said communication link.

96. (WITHDRAWN) A system, operatively, connected with a terminal via a communication link, for managing points which are issued to a customer according to transactions made by said customer and used to provide services to said customer, comprising:
a point calculation unit to calculate a balance point of said customer according to transactions made by said customer and to store said calculated balance point of said customer to a storing unit;
a customer identification unit to identify said customer according to customer identification information obtained from said terminal via said communication link; and
a point information sending unit to send information regarding said balance point of said customer obtained from said storing unit calculated by said point calculation unit to said terminal via said communication link after said customer is successfully identified by said customer identification unit and prior to completing a following transaction.

97. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A point management system employing a computer for managing points issued according to transactions under identification of a customer, comprising;

a customer identification unit to identify said customer according to customer identification information obtained from a terminal operatively connected to said point management system via a communication link;

a point issuing unit to issue points according to said transactions under said identification by said customer identification unit;

a point management unit to manage said points of said customer by calculating a balance point of said customer according to transactions performed by said customer; and

a point sending unit to send said balance point of said customer to said terminal prior to a transaction made using said terminal in an event that said identification is succeeded.

98. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A method for managing points issued according to transactions under identification of a customer in a system connected to a terminal via a communication link, comprising;

identifying said customer according to customer identification information obtained from said terminal;

issuing points according to said transactions under said identification;

managing said points of said customer by calculating a balance point of said customer according to transactions performed by said customer; and

sending said balance point of said customer to said terminal prior to a transaction made using said terminal in an event that said identification is succeeded.

99. (WITHDRAWN) A method for managing points issued for transactions using an on-line system connected with a terminal of a customer, comprising;

calculating a balance of points based on transactions of a customer, said calculating including adding and subtracting points related to executed transactions of the customer; and

providing the balance of points immediately subsequent to identifying the customer based on entry of identification data regardless of whether the customer desires to execute a transaction.

100. (NEW) A point management system employing a computer for managing points issued according to transactions under identification of a customer, comprising:

a customer identification unit to identify said customer according to customer identification information;

a point issuing unit to issue said points according to said transactions under said identification by said customer identification unit;

a point management unit to manage said points of said customer by calculating a balance point of said customer according to transactions performed by said customer; and

a point sending unit to send said balance point of said customer to a terminal operatively connected to said point management system via a communication link, prior to said transaction made using said terminal, in an event that said identification is succeeded based on said customer identification information obtained from said terminal via said communication link.